

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-03

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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 8086

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FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM BONN DATED JUNE 28, 1978 SENT  
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ALGIERS, ANKARA, ATHENS, BERN,  
BRUSSELS, CANBERRA, COPENHAGEN, DUBLIN, HELSINKI,  
LISBON, LONDON, LUXEMBOURG, MADRID, OSLO, OTTAWA, PARIS,  
REYKJAVIK, ROME, STOCKHOLM, THE HAGUE, TOKYO, VIENNA,  
WELLINGTON, GENEVA IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 11907

USEEC AND USOEC

E.O. 11652; N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UN, ECOSOC  
SUBJECT: UN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (OVERVIEW COMMITTEE)

REF: STATE 161676

1. SUMMARY: FRG FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS THAT EC9  
CONSIDERS US PROPOSAL CONTAINED REFTEL TO BE SERIOUS  
TACTICAL ERROR AND URGES FURTHER CONSULTATION AMONG  
WESTERN GROUP BEFORE DISCUSSING THE PROPOSAL WITH  
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G-77 REPRESENTATIVES. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT  
DEPARTMENT CONSIDER INSTRUCTING EMBASSY ALGIERS TO  
REFRAIN FROM DELIVERING MESSAGE TO JAZAIRY IF NOT  
ALREADY DONE. END SUMMARY.

2. SULIMMA OF FRG FOREIGN OFFICE INFORMED EMBASSY  
ECONOMIC COUNSELOR JUNE 28 THAT EC9, AT A BRUSSELS

MEETING ON JUNE 21, HAD CONSIDERED US PROPOSAL AS PRESENTED BY USUN (SEE REFTEL, PARAGRAPH 1) AND THE REACTION WAS DISTINCTLY UNFAVORABLE. THE EC9 AGREES WITH THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES STATED IN PARAGRAPHS ONE THROUGH FOUR OF REFTEL, BUT CONSIDERS THE PROPOSAL IN PARAGRAPHS SEVEN AND EIGHT OF REFTEL (WHICH IS VIRTUALLY THE SAME AS THE ONE PRESENTED BY USUN) AS TACTICALLY VERY UNWISE.

3. THE PROCESS OF IDENTIFYING SUBJECTS WHERE "PROGRESS" CAN BE MADE AMOUNTS TO ADMITTING THAT THE WESTERN GROUP WILL RECONSIDER ITS POSITION ON THOSE ITEMS. THE OFFER OF ASSESSING RESULTS OF SUCH RECONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT OVERVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING WOULD PUT FURTHER PRESSURE ON THE WESTERN GROUP TO CHANGE LONG-STANDING POLICIES. SULIMMA LIKENED THIS PROCEDURE TO THE COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS IN THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE OF THE OECD. WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE WILLING TO SUBMIT THEMSELVES TO SUCH EXAMINATIONS WHEN NO OUTSIDERS ARE PRESENT, BUT WOULD NOT BE WILLING TO DO SO IN PUBLIC. SULIMMA SAID THE US PROPOSAL COMES VERY CLOSE TO MAKING THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE INTO A NEGOTIATING BODY, WHICH IS CONTRARY TO THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE.

4. SULIMMA REPORTED THAT HE HAD SEEN FASLA IN ALGIERS  
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ON JUNE 14 AND 15 (AT ALGERIAN INVITATION) AT THE SAME TIME THAT CASPARI SAW JAZAIRY THERE ON BEHALF OF THE EC COMMISSION. FASLA HAD TOLD SULIMMA THAT THE OVERVIEW MECHANISM WAS A US IDEA ABOUT WHICH THE ALGERIANS WERE NOT PARTICULARLY ENTHUSIASTIC AND HINTED THAT GOA MIGHT BE QUITE HAPPY TO SEE IT DIE A NATURAL DEATH. SULIMMA SAID THE EC9 WOULD ALSO BE HAPPY TO SEE IT WITHER AWAY, BUT DO NOT WISH TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR BURYING IT. HE THINKS THAT IF THE US PROPOSAL IS NOT RPT. NOT PRESENTED TO THE G-77, THE LATTER WILL PROBABLY POSTPONE AND EVENTUALLY CANCEL FURTHER OVERVIEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS. IN THAT EVENT, THE G-77 WOULD RETURN TO THE OTHER FORA WHERE THESE QUESTIONS ARE ALREADY BEING CONSIDERED. BUT IF THE US PROPOSAL IS PRESENTED, IT WILL ENCOURAGE THE G-77 TO PRESERVE AND ENHANCE THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE.

5. ON THE QUESTION OF WHY THE G-77 IS UNWILLING TO SEND POLICY OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS, FASLA TOLD SULIMMA THAT G-77 HAD SENT OFFICIALS TO CIEC AND TDB AND HAD ACCOMPLISHED LITTLE OR NOTHING. THE G-77

BELIEVES THAT IF THE EXPERTS ARE UNABLE TO MAKE PROGRESS, THEN POLICY OFFICIALS ARE EQUALLY UNABLE TO DO SO.

6. IN THE US PROPOSAL AS PRESENTED IN NEW YORK, THERE IS MENTION OF "FOOD AND AGRICULTURE" AS AN ITEM ON WHICH THE WESTERN GROUP MIGHT BE WILLING TO RECONSIDER ITS POLICY. THE EC9 WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MORE DETAILS ON THE ISSUES AND PROPOSALS WHICH THE US HAS IN MIND IN THIS SECTOR.

7. EMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR WILL DISCUSS THIS ISSUE JUNE 29 WITH OFFICIALS OF FRG ECONOMICS MINISTRY AND WILL REPORT FURTHER IF LATTER'S VIEWS DIFFER FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THOSE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: IN VIEW OF REPORTEDLY STRONG EC9 MISGIVINGS ABOUT SUBSTANCE OF US PROPOSAL, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT INSTRUCT EMBASSY ALGIERS TO REFRAIN AT LEAST TEMPORARILY FROM DELIVERING THE MESSAGE IN REFTEL TO JAZAIRY (IF EMBASSY ALGIERS HAS NOT ALREADY DONE SO) AND THAT FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH EC9 AND OTHER WESTERN GROUP MEMBERS BE UNDER-TAKEN FIRST.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 jun 1978  
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